

Pending Claims

1. A wireless communication device, comprising:
a transceiver for communicating in a wireless network;
a processor for controlling operations of the transceiver based on initial configuration information;
a passive tag for receiving the initial configuration information from an external source and storing the initial configuration information in a non-volatile memory at a time when the wireless communication device is otherwise in a non-operational mode; and
an interface for enabling the processor to access the initial configuration information stored in the memory when the wireless communication device is in an operational mode.
2. The wireless communication device of claim 1, wherein the passive tag comprises an antenna for receiving a radio frequency (RF) signal with the initial configuration information modulated thereon, and a decoder/demodulator for demodulating the RF signal and decoding the initial configuration information therefrom.
3. The wireless communication device of claim 2, wherein the passive tag derives power from the RF signal and provides the derived power to the decoder/demodulator and the memory.
4. The wireless communication device of claim 1, wherein the initial configuration information comprises at least one of a network address and a network identification for the wireless communication device.
5. The wireless communication device of claim 1, wherein the wireless communication device is a mobile terminal.

6. The wireless communication device of claim 1, wherein the wireless communication device is an access point.

7. The wireless communication device of claim 1, wherein the wireless communication device is non-operational by virtue of the processor being in a powered down state.

8. The wireless communication device of claim 1, wherein the wireless communication device is non-operational by virtue of being unassembled.

9. A method for use in relation to a wireless communication device including a transceiver for communicating in a wireless network, a processor for controlling operations of the transceiver based on initial configuration information and a passive tag, the method comprising the step of:

transmitting the initial configuration information from a source external to the wireless communication device so as to be received by the passive tag and stored in a non-volatile memory within the passive tag while the wireless communication device is otherwise in a non-operational mode.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein the passive tag comprises an antenna for receiving a radio frequency (RF) signal transmitted during the transmitting step with the initial configuration information modulated thereon, and a decoder/demodulator for demodulating the RF signal and decoding the initial configuration information therefrom.

11. The method of claim 10, further comprising the step of the passive tag deriving power from the RF signal and providing the derived power to the decoder/demodulator and the memory.

12. The method of claim 9, wherein the initial configuration information comprises at least one of a network address and a network identification for the wireless communication device.

13. The method of claim 9, wherein the wireless communication device is a mobile terminal.

14. The method of claim 9, wherein the wireless communication device is an access point.

15. The method of claim 9, wherein the wireless communication device is non-operational by virtue of the processor being in a powered down state.

16. The method of claim 9, wherein the wireless communication device is non-operational by virtue of being unassembled.

17. A method of initially configuring the wireless communication device of claim 1, said method comprising the steps of:

transmitting the initial configuration information from a source external to the wireless communication device;

receiving the initial configuration information by the passive tag storing the initial configuration information in the non-volatile memory;

accessing the initial configuration information stored in the memory; and

controlling operations of the transceiver based on the initial configuration information.

18. A method as set forth in claim 17, wherein the processor is in a powered-down state during the transmitting and receiving steps.

19. A method as set forth in claim 17, wherein the wireless communication device is unassembled during the transmitting and receiving steps.

20. A method as set forth in claim 17, wherein said transmitting step comprises transmitting at least one of a network address and a network identification for the wireless communication device.
